CLAIMS

1.   A table format data processing method that is an
input/output method of a table format in an information processing
apparatus,
a constituent unit of a specific data field in the table being
in a form of a composite unit data entry space which includes
therein as partial areas, a main area that is a first data entry
area and a derived area that is a second data entry area, the
method comprising the steps of:

performing item definition that corresponds an item name
with each data field in the table;

specifying a difference condition, which is a difference
portion specific to a data entry condition of the derived area
from a data entry condition of the main area;

identifying from the table format a first record that
is a combination of data to be concurrently referenced with the
data in the main area or data entry areas of the data to be
concurrently referenced with the data in the main area, based
on the item name correlated with each data field in the table;
and

generating a second record that is a combination of data
to be concurrently referenced with the data in the derived area
or data entry areas of the data to be concurrently referenced
with the data in the derived area, based on the specified difference
condition and the first record identified from the table format,
wherein

data output to the derived area or data input from the derived area in the table format is performed based on the generated second record.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the second record is generated by replacing data of a certain item in the first record with other data specified by the difference condition to generate.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the second record is generated by adding data or a data entry area of an item specified by the difference condition to the first record.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the difference condition is specified by additionally entering definition support entry information that can be differentiated from normal entry information, which is original entry information representing the table format of a document.

5.   The method of claim 4, wherein the definition support entry information specifying the difference condition is differentiated by identifying certain entry modification information preliminarily assigned to the definition support entry information.

6.   The method of claim 4, wherein the definition support entry information specifying the difference condition is differentiated by identifying a certain symbol or a certain

graphical characteristic assigned to the definition support entry information.

7.   The method of claim 5, wherein the definition support entry information specifying the difference condition is differentiated by identifying the entry modification information same as that differentiating the definition support entry information used for the item definition of the form format

8.   The method of claim 6, wherein specification of an item name or specification of a data name performed in the specification of the difference condition is performed by using the certain symbol or the certain graphical characteristic used for specification of an item name or specification of a data name used in the item definition of the table format.

9   A table format data processing method that is an input/output method of a table format in an information processing apparatus,
a   constituent unit of a specific data field in the table being in a form of a composite unit data entry space which includes therein as partial areas, a main area that is a first data entry area and a derived area that is a second data entry area, the method comprising the steps of:
        specifying a group of a plurality of the composite unit data entry spaces as one composite field; and
        collectively performing specification of a field

attribute of all the main areas or all the derived areas in the specified composite field for each composite field.

10. The data processing method of a table format of claim 9, wherein the field attribute specification performed for each composite field is performed for one main area or one derived area selected from the composite field.

11. A table format data processing method that is an input/output method of a table format in an information processing apparatus,
a constituent unit of a specific data field in the table being in a form of a composite unit data entry space which includes therein as partial areas, a main area that is a first data entry area and a derived area that is a second data entry area, the method comprising the steps of:
    specifying a group of unit data entry spaces as a composite field that is a group of composite unit data entry spaces in the table format;
    correlating a plurality of composite unit data entry spaces in the specified composite field with one composite unit data entry space as a calculation result data entry space filled out with a result of calculation of data entered in the plurality of composite unit data entry spaces; and
    entering data of the calculation result of the main area data or the derived area data of a plurality of the calculation target unit data entry spaces in the main area or the derived

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area of the composite unit data entry space of the calculation result data entry space.

12.   The method of claim 9, comprising the step of correlating a plurality of composite unit data entry spaces filled out with calculation target data with one composite unit data entry space as a calculation result data entry space, wherein the field attributes of the main area and the derived area in the specified calculation target composite unit data entry space are applied to the field attributes of the main area and the derived area in the composite unit data entry space of the calculation result data entry space.

13.   The method of claims 1, 9, and 11, wherein certain symbols entered in the unit data entry space are recognized to identify the range of the derived area located in the unit data entry space.

14.   The method of claim 13, wherein a derived area generating element is certain symbols regulating the range of the derived area and includes a ruled line.

15.   The method of claim 14, wherein the ruled line used as the derived area generating element is identified by identifying a line type or line color of the ruled line.

16.   The method of claim 1, comprising the step of identifying

the type of the derived area generating element entered in the certain unit data entry space in a certain data field with the derived area defined and the position of the derived area generating element in the unit data entry space, wherein at the time of data output to the certain data field, the derived area generating element is automatically generated and entered in the unit data entry space not filed out with the derived area generating method in the certain data field.

17.   An information processing apparatus that is a data processing apparatus of a table format,
a constituent unit of a specific data field in the table being in a form of a composite unit data entry space which includes therein as partial areas, a main area that is a first data entry area and a derived area that is a second data entry area, the apparatus comprising:

the table format being in a form of a composite unit data entry space where a data entry space is a constituent unit of a certain data field in a table and includes partial areas, which are a main area that is a first data entry area and a derived area that is a second data entry area, the apparatus comprising:

a means that performs item definition corresponding an item name with each data field in the table;

a means that specifies a difference condition, which is a difference portion specific to a data entry condition of the derived area from a data entry condition of the main area;

a means that identifies from the table format a first

record that is a combination of data to be concurrently referenced with the data in the main area or data entry areas of the data to be concurrently referenced with the data in the main area, based on the item name correlated with each data field in the table; and

a means that generates a second record that is a combination of data to be concurrently referenced with the data in the derived area or data entry areas of the data to be concurrently referenced with the data in the derived area, based on the specified difference condition and the first record identified from the table format, the information processing apparatus performing data output to the derived area or data input from the derived area in the table format based on the generated second record.

18. An information processing apparatus that is a data processing apparatus of a table format,
a constituent unit of a specific data field in the table being in a form of a composite unit data entry space which includes therein as partial areas, a main area that is a first data entry area and a derived area that is a second data entry area, the apparatus comprising:

a means that specifies a group of a plurality of the composite unit data entry spaces as one composite field; and

a means that collectively performs specification of a field attribute of all the main areas or all the derived areas in the specified composite field for each composite field.

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19.   An information processing apparatus that is a data processing apparatus of a table format,
a   constituent unit of a specific data field in the table being in a form of a composite unit data entry space which includes therein as partial areas, a main area that is a first data entry area and a derived area that is a second data entry area, the apparatus comprising:

a means that specifies a group of unit data entry spaces as a composite field that is a group of composite unit data entry spaces in the table format;

a means that correlates a plurality of composite unit data entry spaces in the specified composite field with one composite unit data entry space as a calculation result data entry space filled out with a result of calculation of data entered in the plurality of composite unit data entry spaces; and

a means that enters data of the calculation result of the main area data or the derived area data of a plurality of the calculation target unit data entry spaces in the main area or the derived area of the composite unit data entry space of the calculation result data entry space.

20.   The information processing apparatus of claim 18, comprising a means that correlates a plurality of composite unit data entry spaces filled out with calculation target data with one composite unit data entry space as a calculation result data entry space, wherein the field attributes of the main area and

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the derived area in the specified calculation target composite unit data entry space are applied to the field attributes of the main area and the derived area in the composite unit data entry space of the calculation result data entry space.